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TM
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
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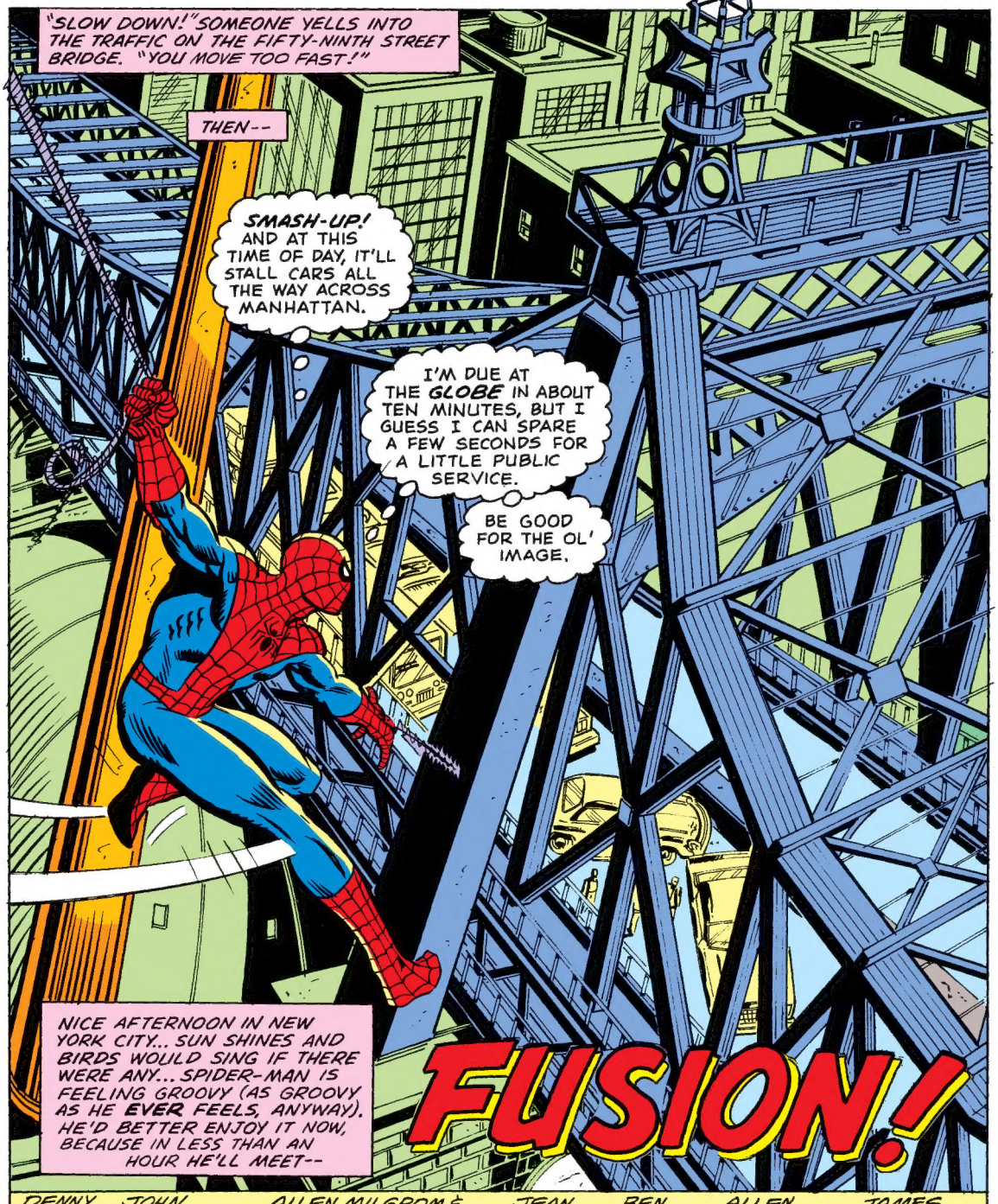
BACK OFF, SPIDER-MAN! YOU CAN'T BEAT--
--FUSION-- THE TWIN TERROR!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

*SPECIAL THANKS TO JIM SHOOTER AND MARK GRUENWALD FOR PLOTTING-- AND TO THE FANS AT MAPLECON II IN OTTAWA FOR CREATING-- FUSION!



DENNY O'NEIL • WRITER
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ALLEN MILGROM & BRETT BREEDING • FINISHED ART
JEAN SIMEK • LETTERER
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ALLEN MILGROM • EDITOR
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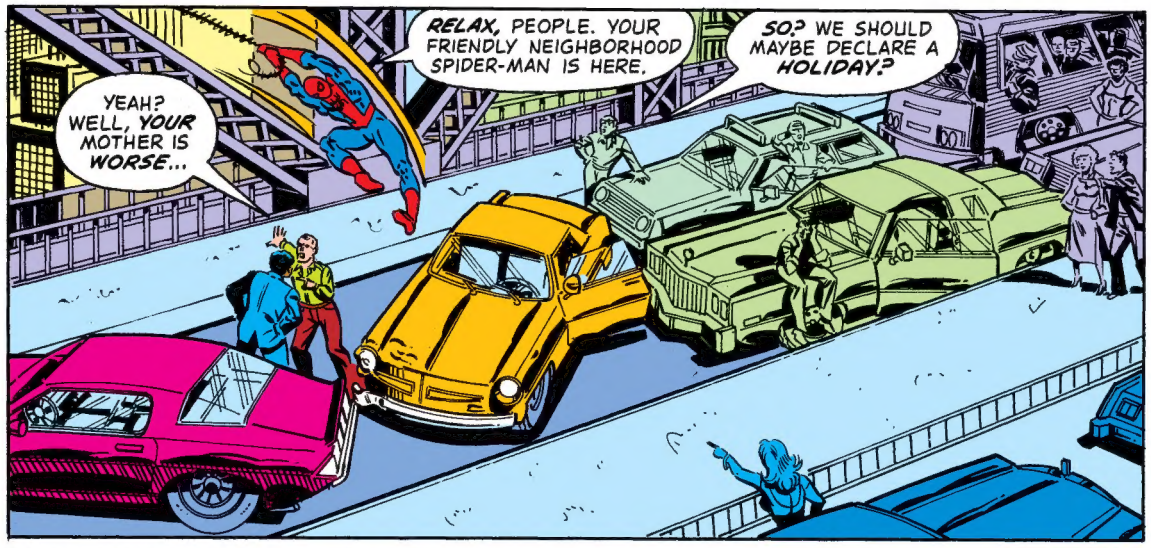
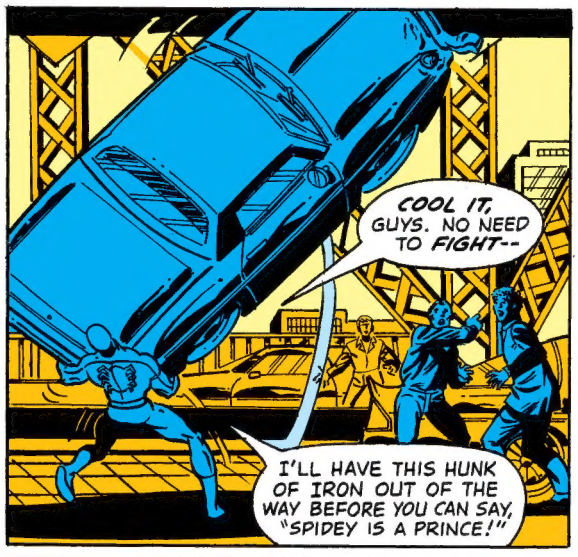
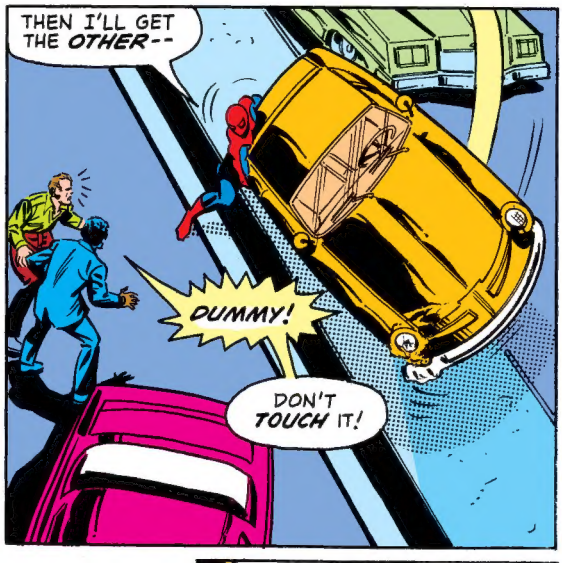
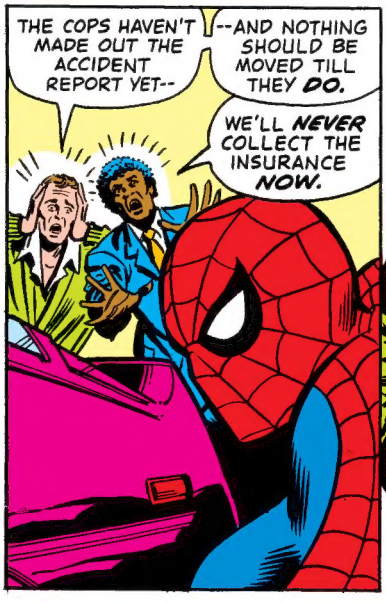
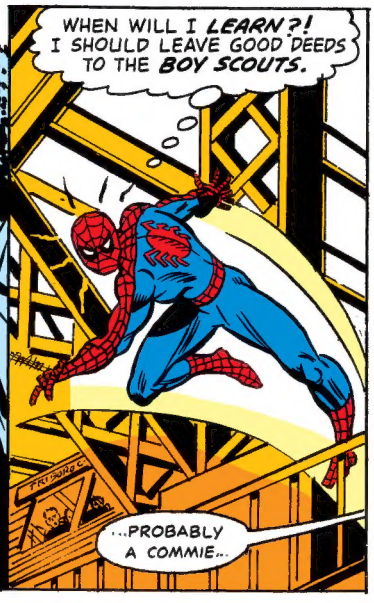

YEAH? WELL, YOUR MOTHER IS WORSE...
RELAX, PEOPLE. YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN IS HERE.
SO? WE SHOULD MAYBE DECLARE A HOLIDAY?

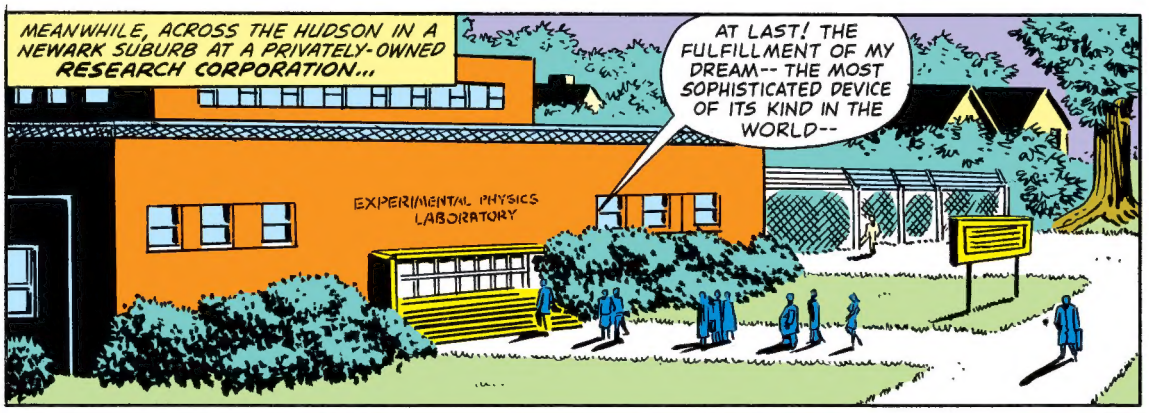

COOL IT, GUYS. NO NEED TO FIGHT--
I'LL HAVE THIS HUNK OF IRON OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE YOU CAN SAY, "SPIDEY IS A PRINCE!"

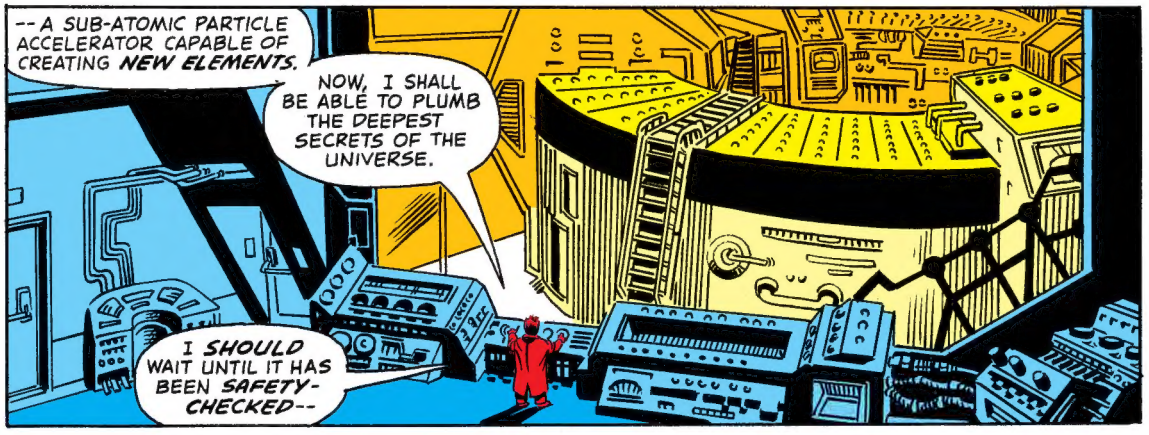

THEN I'LL GET THE OTHER--
DUMMY!
DON'T TOUCH IT!


THE COPS HAVEN'T MADE OUT THE ACCIDENT REPORT YET--
--AND NOTHING SHOULD BE MOVED TILL THEY DO.
WE'LL NEVER COLLECT THE INSURANCE NOW.

STUPID CREEP!
G'WAN... GET LOST!

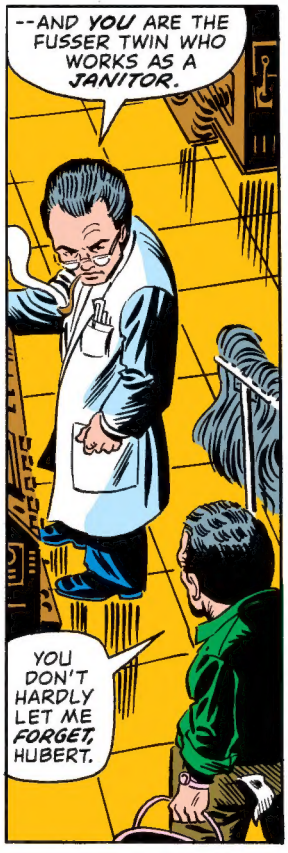

WHEN WILL I LEARN?! I SHOULD LEAVE GOOD DEEDS TO THE BOY SCOUTS.
...PROBABLY A COMMIE...


MEANWHILE, ACROSS THE HUDSON IN A NEWARK SUBURB AT A PRIVATELY-OWNED RESEARCH CORPORATION...
AT LAST! THE FULFILLMENT OF MY DREAM-- THE MOST SOPHISTICATED DEVICE OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD--
EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS LABORATORY


--A SUB-ATOMIC PARTICLE ACCELERATOR CAPABLE OF CREATING NEW ELEMENTS.
NOW, I SHALL BE ABLE TO PLUMB THE DEEPEST SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE.
I SHOULD WAIT UNTIL IT HAS BEEN SAFETY-CHECKED--

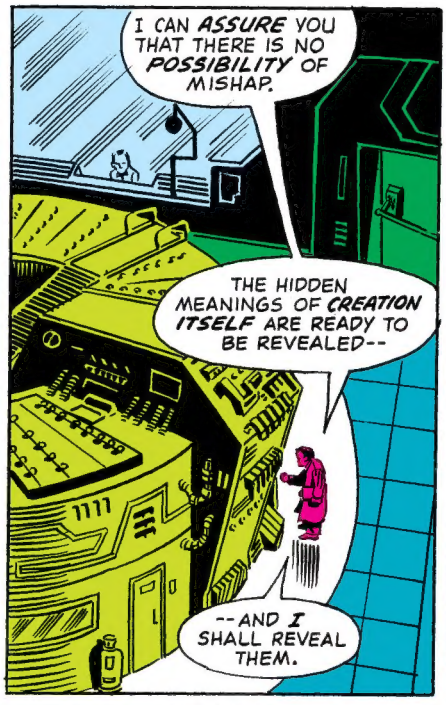
--BUT SURELY NOTHING CAN GO WRONG.
BETTER NOT MESS WITH HER, BROTHER--

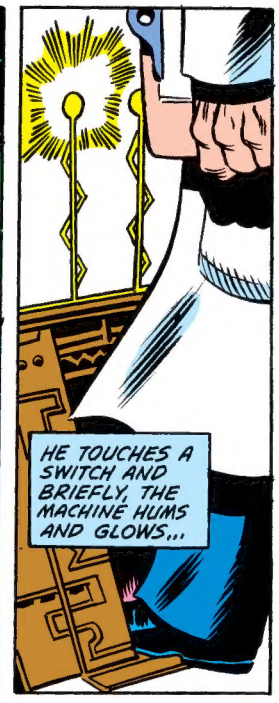
--YOU CAN WAIT ANOTHER HOUR TO GET STARTED ON YOUR NOBEL PRIZE.
I FIND YOUR HUMOR DUBIOUS, PINKY.
EXIT
MAY I REMIND YOU THAT I AM THE TWIN WHO BECAME A SCIENTIST--


--AND YOU ARE THE FUSSER TWIN WHO WORKS AS A JANITOR.
YOU DON'T HARDLY LET ME FORGET, HUBERT.

IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T YOU GO ON ABOUT YOUR DUTIES?
JUST BE CAREFUL, HUBE. DON'T GET HURT.

I DID NOT BECOME RESEARCH DIRECTOR OF THIS ORGANIZATION BY BEING CARELESS, LITTLE BROTHER.
REMEMBER, I DESIGNED EVERYTHING IN THE LABORATORY.


I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF MISHAP.
THE HIDDEN MEANINGS OF CREATION ITSELF ARE READY TO BE REVEALED--
--AND I SHALL REVEAL THEM.

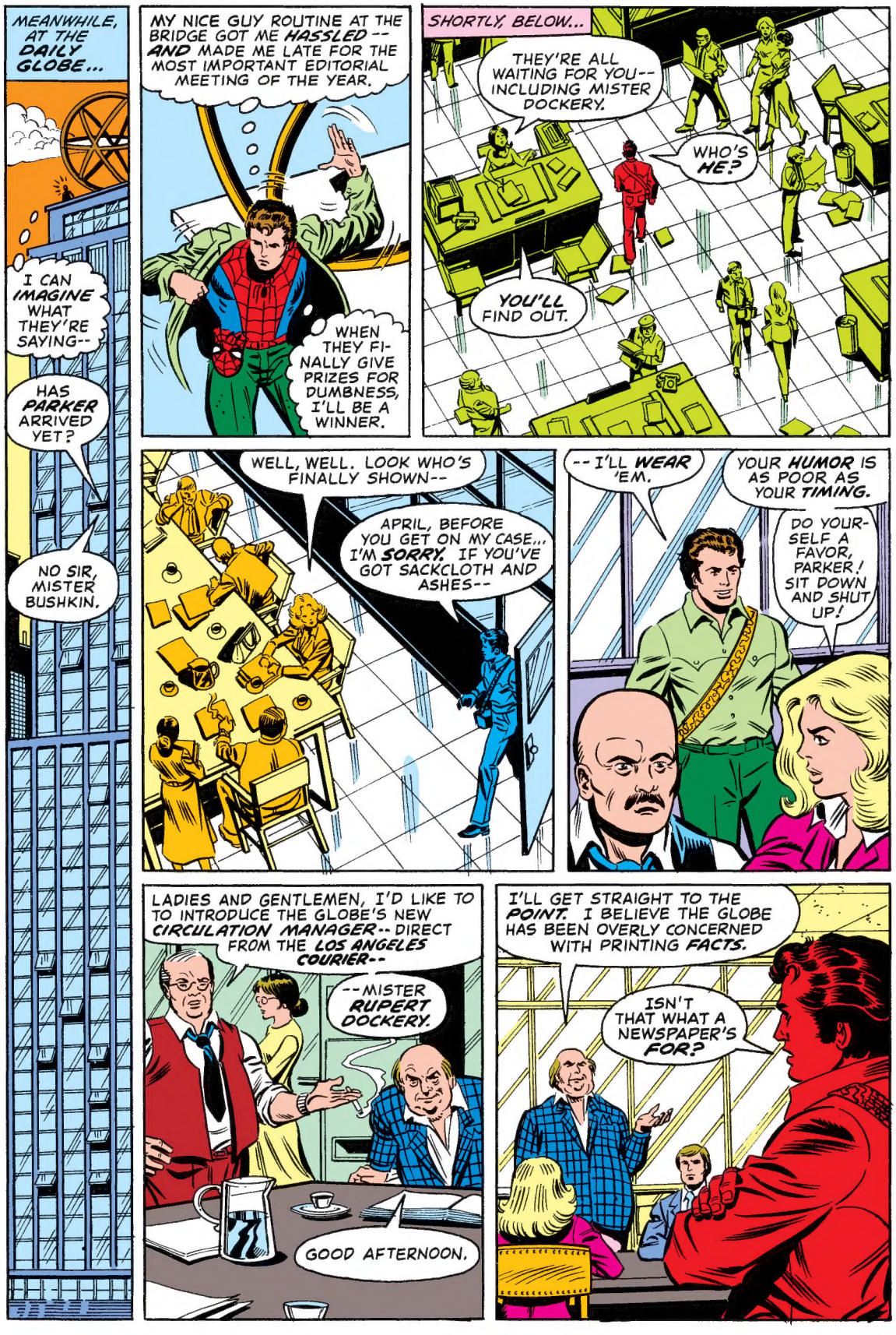

HE TOUCHES A SWITCH AND BRIEFLY, THE MACHINE HUMS AND GLOWS...

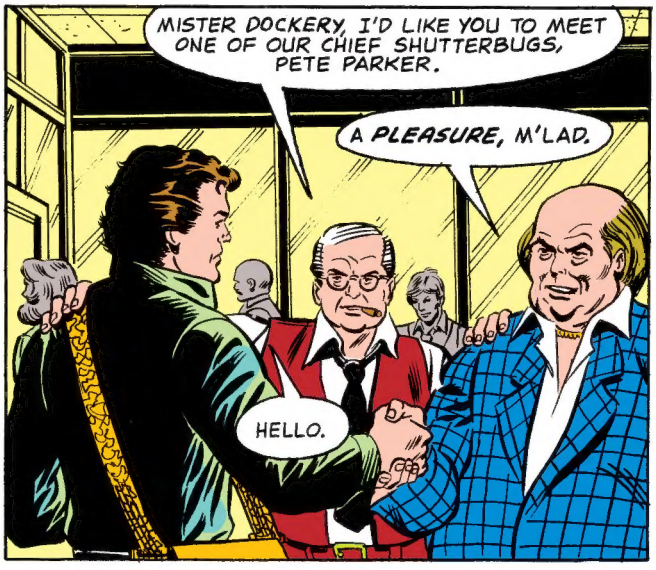
THEN... A BURST OF RAW ENERGY AS A HUNDRED TRILLIAN NAME LESS SPECKS OF MATTER ARE UNLEASHED...
SO ABRUPT IS THE MAELSTROM THAT HUBERT FUSSER DOES NOT EVEN HAVE TIME TO SCREAM...

A MOMENT LATER...
HUBE! HUBE!

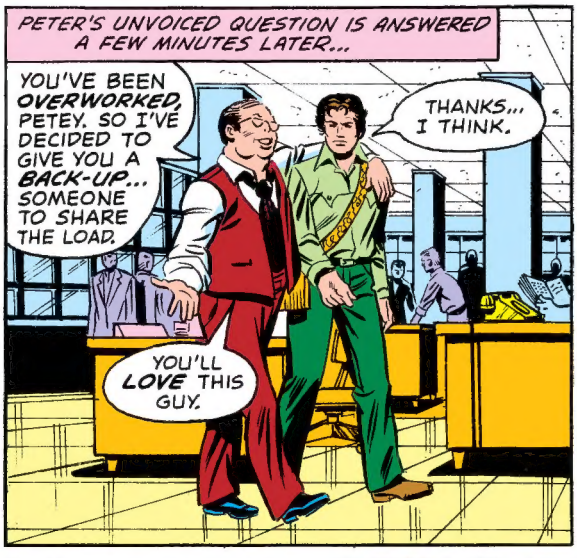
THE LIGHT... BLINDING...
PAIN IS HORRIBLE... LIKE MY SKIN'S ON FIRE...
BUT I GOTTA GET HUBE OUT--

IT HAPPENS, THEN... THE BROTHERS TOUCH!
SLOWLY, THEIR FLESH SEEMS TO MELT... AND MERGE...
...AND BECOME ONE.

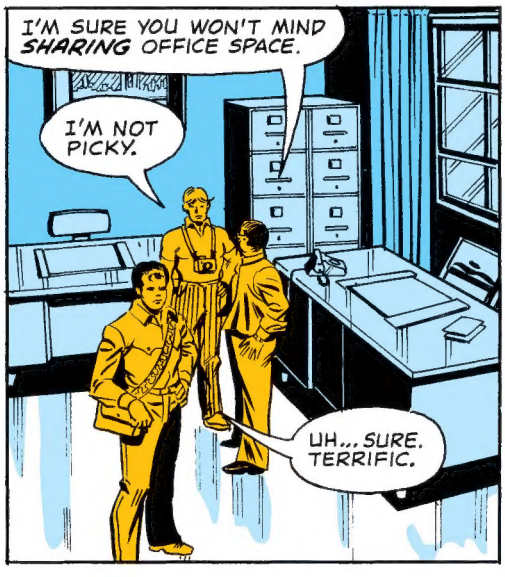

MEANWHILE, AT THE DAILY GLOBE...
I CAN IMAGINE WHAT THEY'RE SAYING--
HAS PARKER ARRIVED YET?
NO SIR, MISTER BUSHKIN.
MY NICE GUY ROUTINE AT THE BRIDGE GOT ME HASSLED -- AND MADE ME LATE FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT EDITORIAL MEETING OF THE YEAR.
WHEN THEY FINALLY GIVE PRIZES FOR DUMBNESS, I'LL BE A WINNER.
SHORTLY, BELOW...
THEY'RE ALL WAITING FOR YOU-- INCLUDING MISTER DOCKERY.
WHO'S HE?
YOU'LL FIND OUT.
WELL, WELL. LOOK WHO'S FINALLY SHOWN--
APRIL, BEFORE YOU GET ON MY CASE... I'M SORRY. IF YOU'VE GOT SACKCLOTH AND ASHES--
-- I'LL WEAR 'EM.
YOUR HUMOR IS AS POOR AS YOUR TIMING.
DO YOURSELF A FAVOR, PARKER! SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I'D LIKE TO TO INTRODUCE THE GLOBE'S NEW CIRCULATION MANAGER-- DIRECT FROM THE LOS ANGELES COURIER--
--MISTER RUPERT DOCKERY.
GOOD AFTERNOON.
I'LL GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT. I BELIEVE THE GLOBE HAS BEEN OVERLY CONCERNED WITH PRINTING FACTS.
ISN'T THAT WHAT A NEWSPAPER'S FOR?

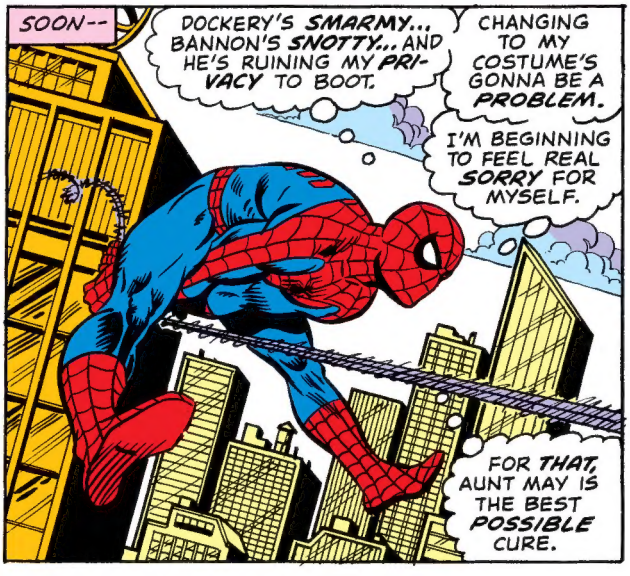

MISTER DOCKERY, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET ONE OF OUR CHIEF SHUTTERBUGS, PETE PARKER.
A PLEASURE, M'LAD.
HELLO.

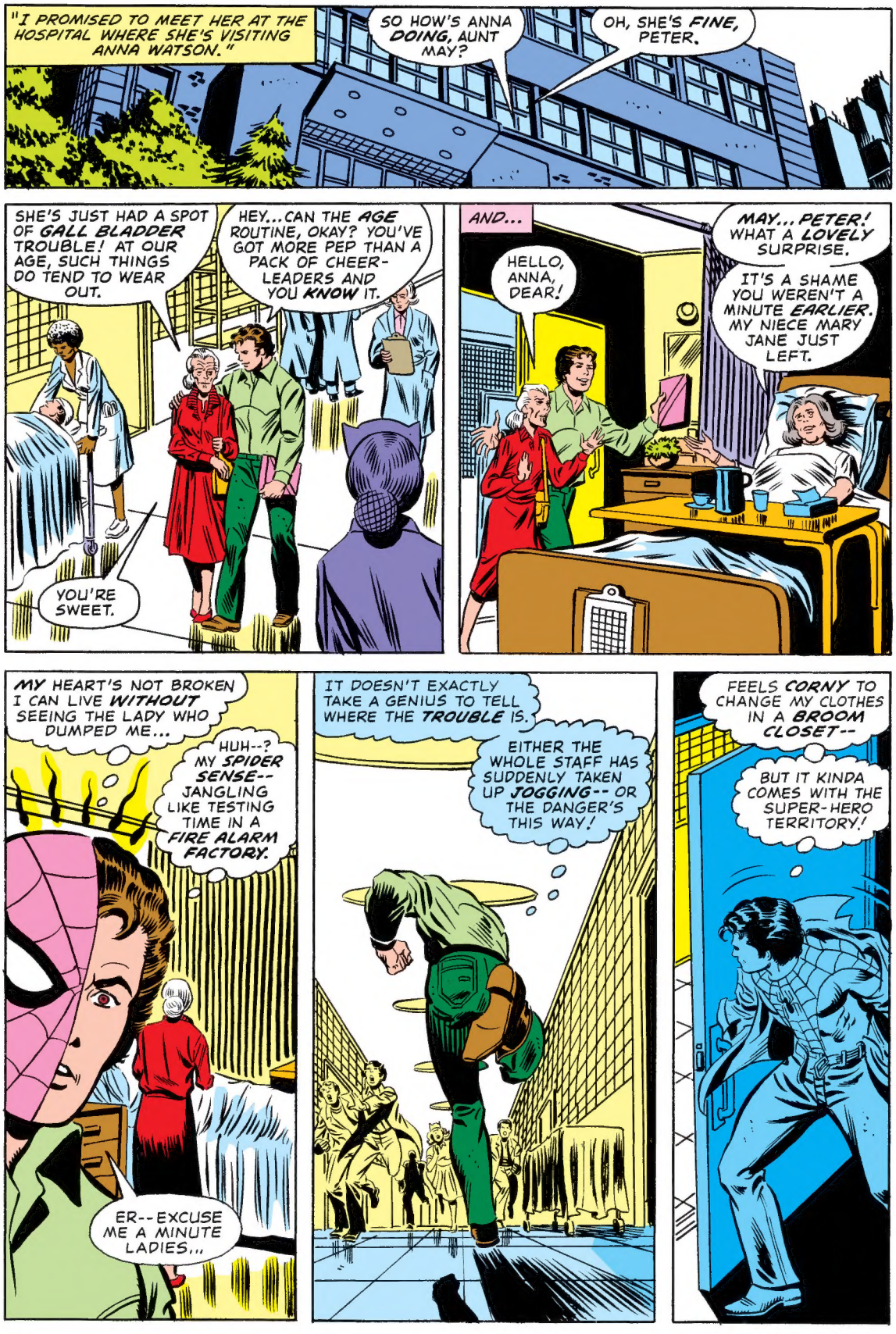
BARNEY SAID ONE OF THE CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHERS. I I WAS THE ONLY HEAD PICTURE-TAKER.
WHO'S THE OTHER?

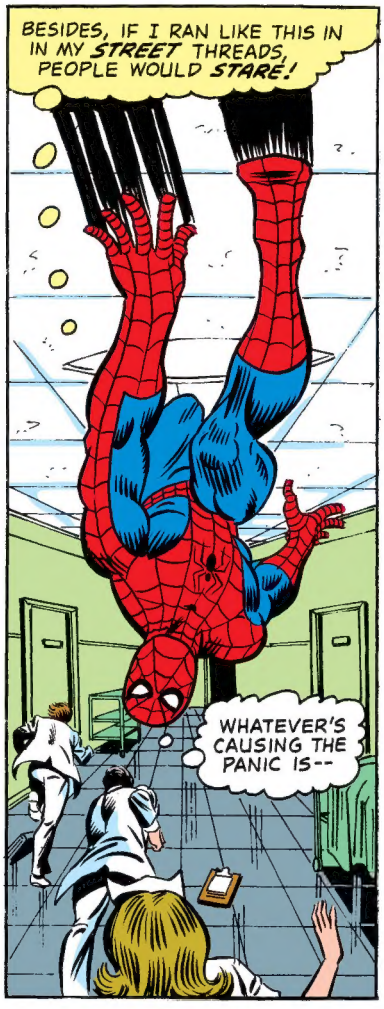

PETER'S UNVOICED QUESTION IS ANSWERED A FEW MINUTES LATER...
YOU'VE BEEN OVERWORKED, PETEY. SO I'VE DECIDED TO GIVE YOU A BACK-UP... SOMEONE TO SHARE THE LOAD.
THANKS... I THINK.
YOU'LL LOVE THIS GUY.

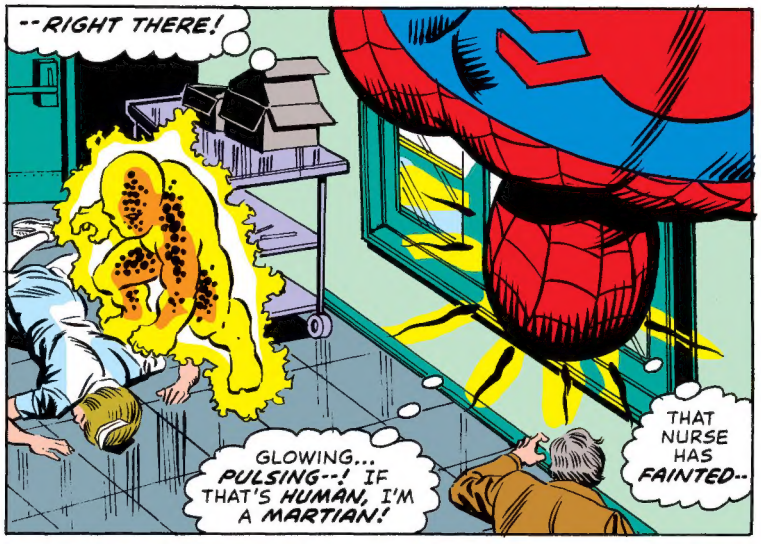
PETE, SAY HI TO LANCE BANNON.
YOU FELLAS HAVE A HECK OF A LOT IN COMMON.
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

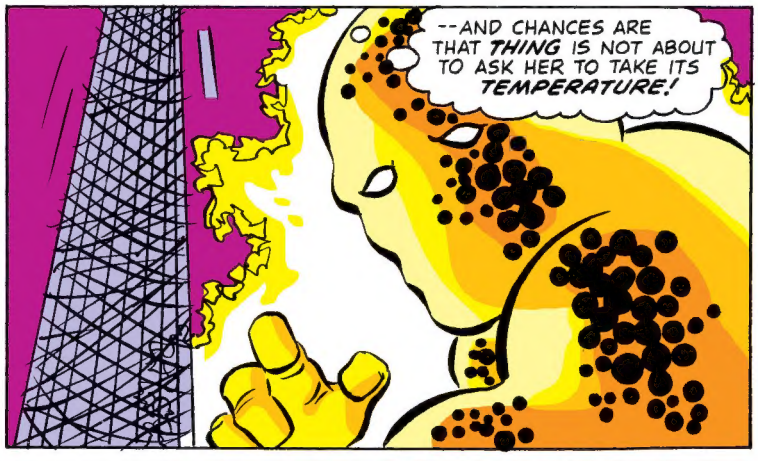

I'M SURE YOU WON'T MIND SHARING OFFICE SPACE.
I'M NOT PICKY.
UH... SURE. TERRIFIC.

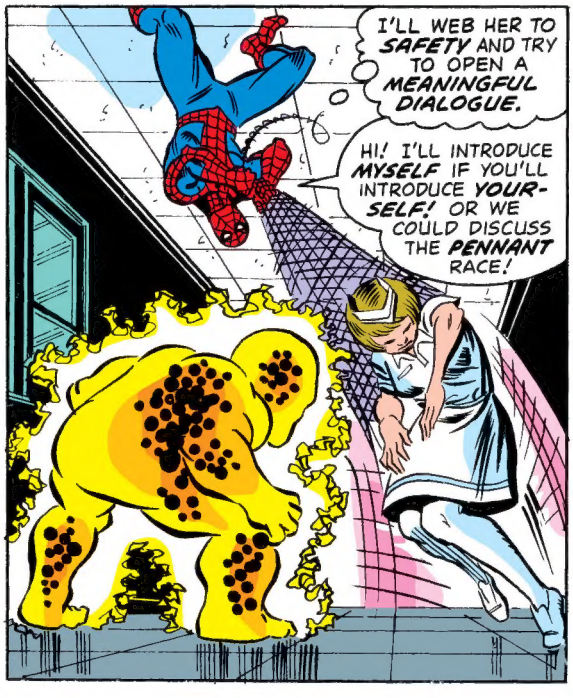

SOON--
DOCKERY'S SMARMY... BANNON'S SNOTTY... AND HE'S RUINING MY PRIVACY TO BOOT.
CHANGING TO MY COSTUME'S GONNA BE A PROBLEM.
I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL REAL SORRY FOR MYSELF.
FOR THAT, AUNT MAY IS THE BEST POSSIBLE CURE.

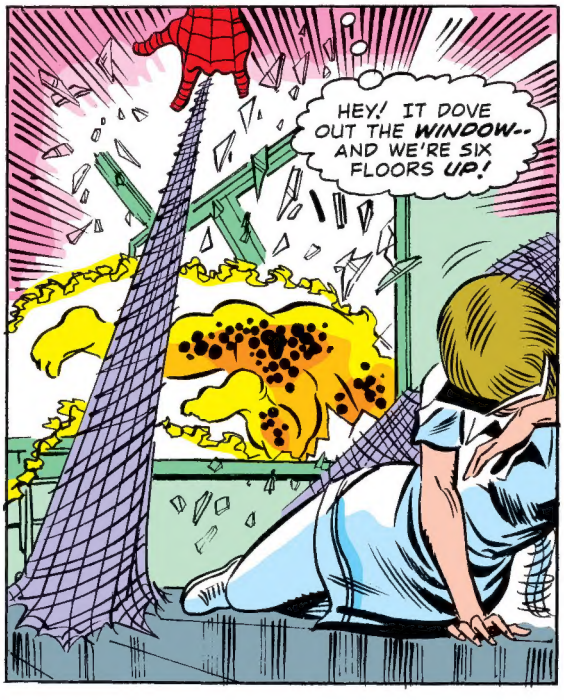

"I PROMISED TO MEET HER AT THE HOSPITAL WHERE SHE'S VISITING ANNA WATSON."
SO HOW'S ANNA DOING, AUNT MAY?
OH, SHE'S FINE, PETER.
SHE'S JUST HAD A SPOT OF GALL BLADDER TROUBLE! AT OUR AGE, SUCH THINGS DO TEND TO WEAR OUT.
HEY...CAN THE AGE ROUTINE, OKAY? YOU'VE GOT MORE PEP THAN A PACK OF CHEER-LEADERS AND YOU KNOW IT.
YOU'RE SWEET.
AND...
HELLO, ANNA, DEAR!
MAY... PETER! WHAT A LOVELY SURPRISE.
IT'S A SHAME YOU WEREN'T A MINUTE EARLIER. MY NIECE MARY JANE JUST LEFT.
MY HEART'S NOT BROKEN I CAN LIVE WITHOUT SEEING THE LADY WHO DUMPED ME...
HUH--? MY SPIDER SENSE-- JANGLING LIKE TESTING TIME IN A FIRE ALARM FACTORY.
ER--EXCUSE ME A MINUTE LADIES...
IT DOESN'T EXACTLY TAKE A GENIUS TO TELL WHERE THE TROUBLE IS.
EITHER THE WHOLE STAFF HAS SUDDENLY TAKEN UP JOGGING-- OR THE DANGER'S THIS WAY!
FEELS CORNY TO CHANGE MY CLOTHES IN A BROOM CLOSET--
BUT IT KINDA COMES WITH THE SUPER-HERO TERRITORY!


BESIDES, IF I RAN LIKE THIS IN IN MY STREET THREADS, PEOPLE WOULD STARE!
WHATEVER'S CAUSING THE PANIC IS--

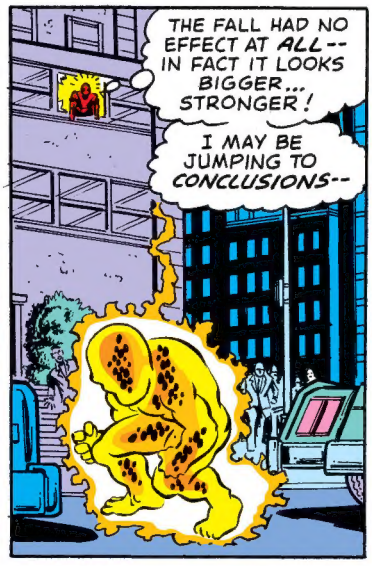

--RIGHT THERE!
GLOWING... PULSING--! IF THAT'S HUMAN, I'M A MARTIAN!
THAT NURSE HAS FAINTED--

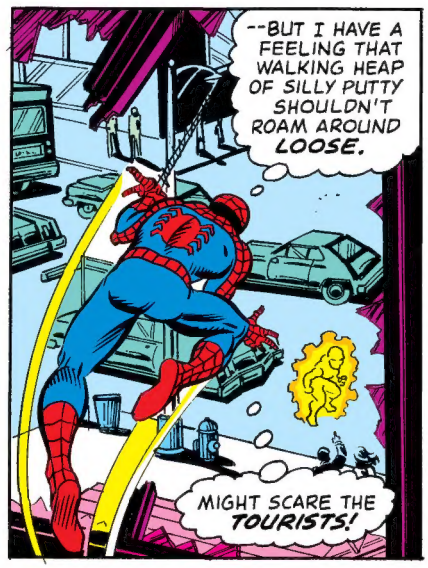

--AND CHANCES ARE THAT THING IS NOT ABOUT TO ASK HER TO TAKE ITS TEMPERATURE!

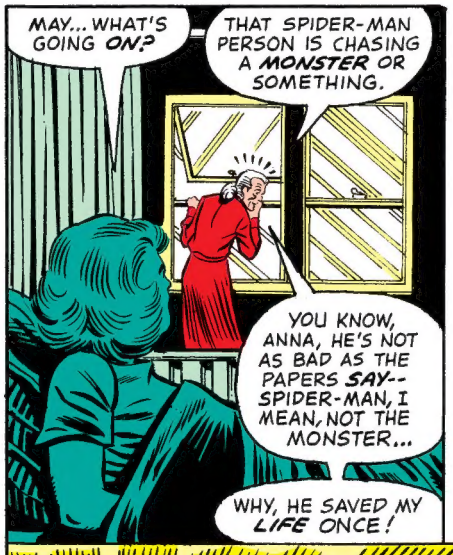

I'LL WEB HER TO SAFETY AND TRY TO OPEN A MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE.
HI! I'LL INTRODUCE MYSELF IF YOU'LL INTRODUCE YOURSELF! OR WE COULD DISCUSS THE PENNANT RACE!

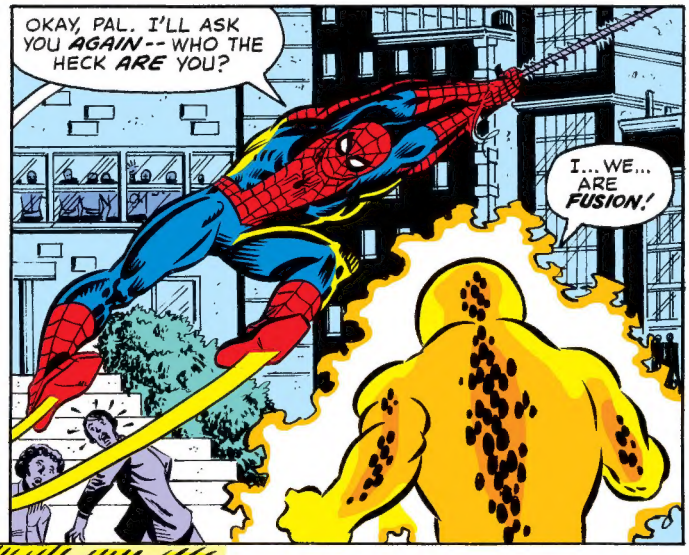

HEY! IT DOVE OUT THE WINDOW-- AND WE'RE SIX FLOORS UP!

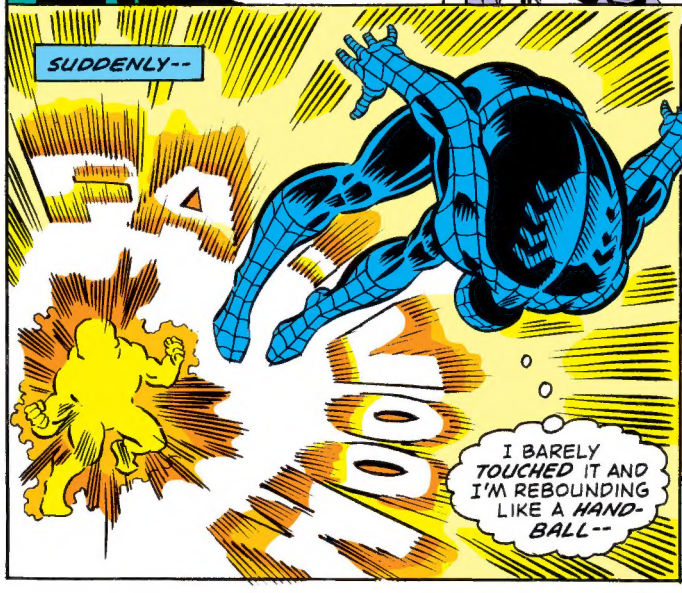
I DON'T WANNA LOOK. IT'S PROBABLY A GLOWING SMEAR ON THE SIDEWALK--
NO!

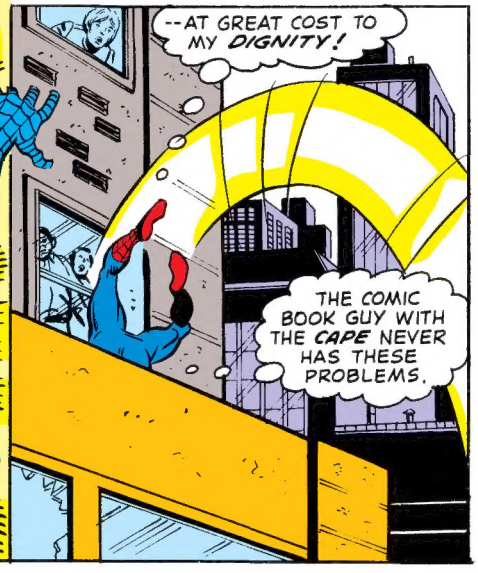

THE FALL HAD NO EFFECT AT ALL-- IN FACT IT LOOKS BIGGER... STRONGER!
I MAY BE JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS--


--BUT I HAVE A FEELING THAT WALKING HEAP OF SILLY PUTTY SHOULDN'T ROAM AROUND LOOSE.
MIGHT SCARE THE TOURISTS!

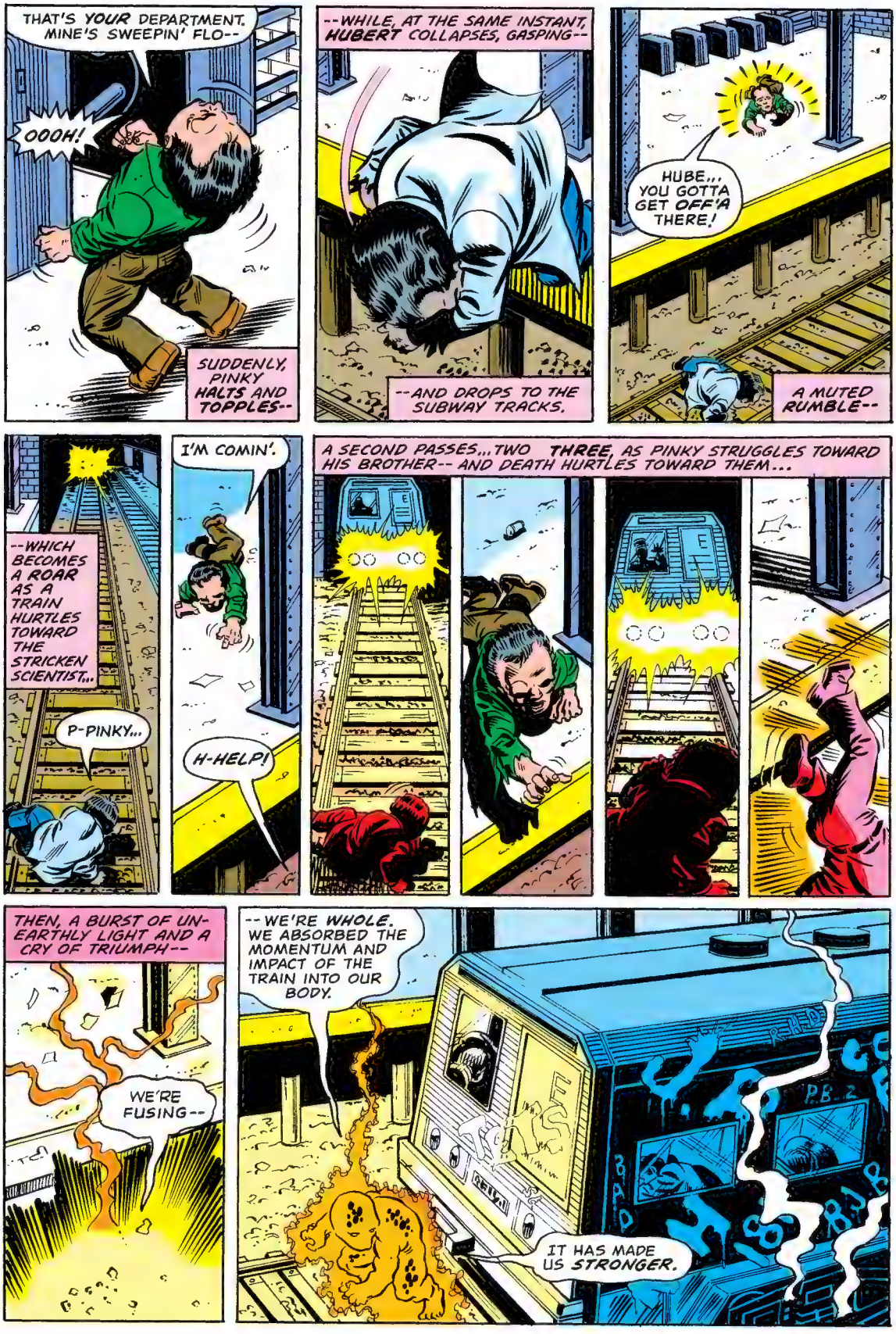

MAY... WHAT'S GOING ON?
THAT SPIDER-MAN PERSON IS CHASING A MONSTER OR SOMETHING.
YOU KNOW, ANNA, HE'S NOT AS BAD AS THE PAPERS SAY-- SPIDER-MAN, I MEAN, NOT THE MONSTER...
WHY, HE SAVED MY LIFE ONCE!

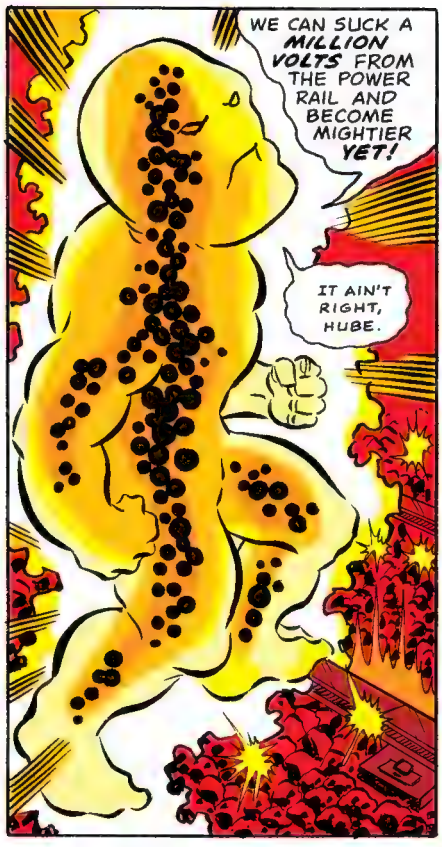

OKAY, PAL. I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN-- WHO THE HECK ARE YOU?
I... WE... ARE FUSION!


SUDDENLY--
I BARELY TOUCHED IT AND I'M REBOUNDING LIKE A HAND-BALL--


--AT GREAT COST TO MY DIGNITY!
THE COMIC BOOK GUY WITH THE CAPE NEVER HAS THESE PROBLEMS.

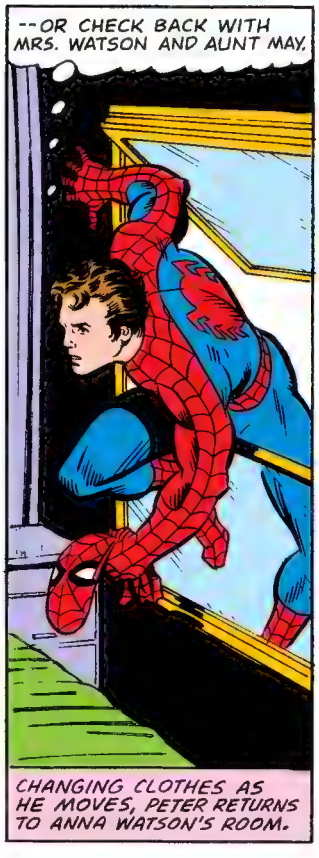
WOBBLING, ERRATICALLY, THE CREATURE LURCHES THROUGH TRAFFIC. AT HIS TOUCH, ENGINES DIE, LIGHTS WINK OUT...
...VEHICLES ARE STILLED WHILE DRIVERS GAPE...
FINALLY, IT PAUSES AND TREMBLES, AS THOUGH STRUGGLING TO REACH A DECISION AND IT SPEAKS IN ONE VOICE--
HOME. MUST GO HOME.
--AND THEN, ANOTHER...
NO.
CHEESE A'MIGHTY. IF THAT'S WHAT'S RIDIN' THE SUBWAYS, I'M GONNA WALK.
I'M GONNA HIDE.
I SAY HOME.
YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND. WE HAVE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.
I DON'T WANNA UNDERSTAND.
I WANNA--
--GET FREE--
--OF YOU--
--BROTHER!
CAN YOU COMPREHEND WHAT HAPPENED, PINKY? WE FUSED INTO A SINGLE BEING.
THAT'S CARRYIN' BROTHERHOOD TOO DANG FAR.
MORE...WE WERE ABSORBING ENERGY FROM WHATEVER WE MADE CONTACT WITH...FROM THE FALL-- THE CARS--
YEAH, WELL--
--YOU'LL HAVE TO ABSORB ENERGY WITHOUT ME! I'M CUTTIN' OUT.
NO! WE HAVE BECOME THE GREATEST PHENOMENON IN THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE!

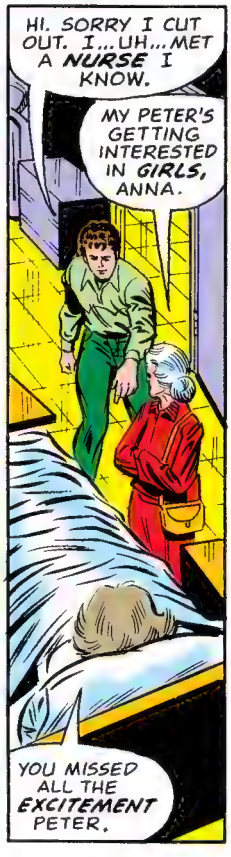

THAT'S YOUR DEPARTMENT. MINE'S SWEEPIN' FLO--
OOOH!
SUDDENLY, PINKY HALTS AND TOPPLES--
--WHILE, AT THE SAME INSTANT, HUBERT COLLAPSES, GASPING--
--AND DROPS TO THE SUBWAY TRACKS.
HUBE... YOU GOTTA GET OFF'A THERE!
A MUTED RUMBLE--
--WHICH BECOMES A ROAR AS A TRAIN HURTLES TOWARD THE STRICKEN SCIENTIST...
P-PINKY...
I'M COMIN'.
H-HELP!
A SECOND PASSES...TWO THREE, AS PINKY STRUGGLES TOWARD HIS BROTHER-- AND DEATH HURTLES TOWARD THEM...
THEN, A BURST OF UNEARTHLY LIGHT AND A CRY OF TRIUMPH--
WE'RE FUSING--
--WE'RE WHOLE. WE ABSORBED THE MOMENTUM AND IMPACT OF THE TRAIN INTO OUR BODY.
IT HAS MADE US STRONGER.

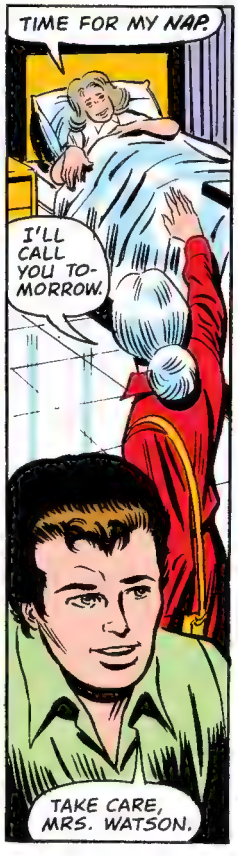

WE CAN SUCK A MILLION VOLTS FROM THE POWER RAIL AND BECOME MIGHTIER YET!
IT AIN'T RIGHT, HUBE.

DARKNESS FOLLOWS--AS FUSION TAKES THE SUBWAY SYSTEM'S ELECTRICITY INTO HIMSELF--DARKNESS, AND A GLEEFUL MURMUR...
THERE MAY BE NO LIMIT TO THE ENERGY WE CAN MAKE A PART OF US. WE MUST TEST OUR POTENTIAL!

MEANWHILE, AT THE HOSPITAL...
THERE ARE A MILLION PLACES TO HIDE IN THE AVERAGE NEW YORK CITY BLOCK... AND MY PLAYMATE'S FOUND ONE OF 'EM!
I CAN EITHER STAND HERE RUBBING MY BRUISES:--

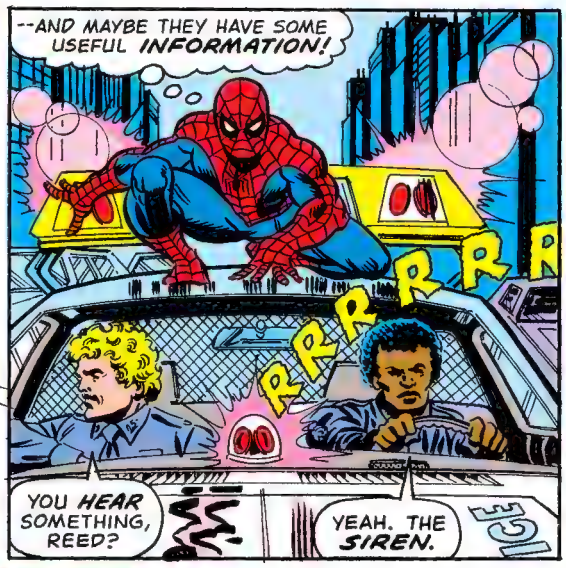

--OR CHECK BACK WITH MRS. WATSON AND AUNT MAY.
CHANGING CLOTHES AS HE MOVES, PETER RETURNS TO ANNA WATSON'S ROOM.

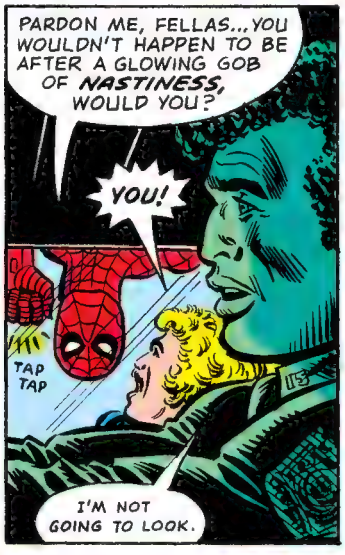

HI. SORRY I CUT OUT. I...UH...MET A NURSE I KNOW.
MY PETER'S GETTING INTERESTED IN GIRLS, ANNA.
YOU MISSED ALL THE EXCITEMENT PETER.

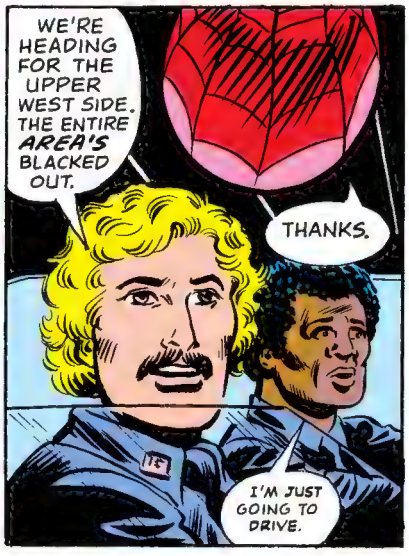

TIME FOR MY NAP.
I'LL CALL YOU TOMORROW.
TAKE CARE, MRS. WATSON.

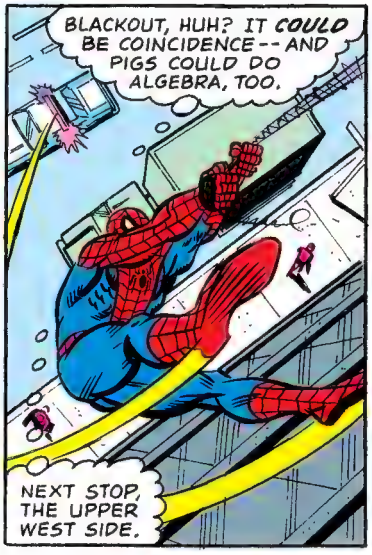
AFTER PETER HAS RETURNED HIS AUNT TO HER NURSING HOME.
NO SIGN OF THAT LITTLE GLOW-GUY!
SOMETIMES I WISH I WERE A DECTIVIVE-TYPE GOOD GUY. THEN I COULD SLEUTH DOWN THE GEEKS WHO HASSLE ME.
ME-- I HAVE TO DEPEND ON LUCK, MY SPIDER-SENSE -- AND A LOTTA ENERGY.

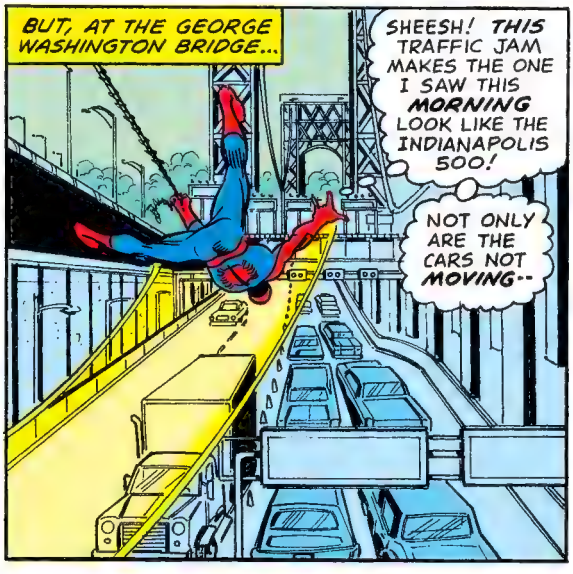
THOSE COPS ARE IN A HURRY! MAYBE THEY'RE LOOKING FOR THE SAME THING I AM--
POLICE
EDITION
RRRRRR


--AND MAYBE THEY HAVE SOME USEFUL INFORMATION!
RRRRRR
YOU HEAR SOMETHING, REED?
YEAH. THE SIREN.

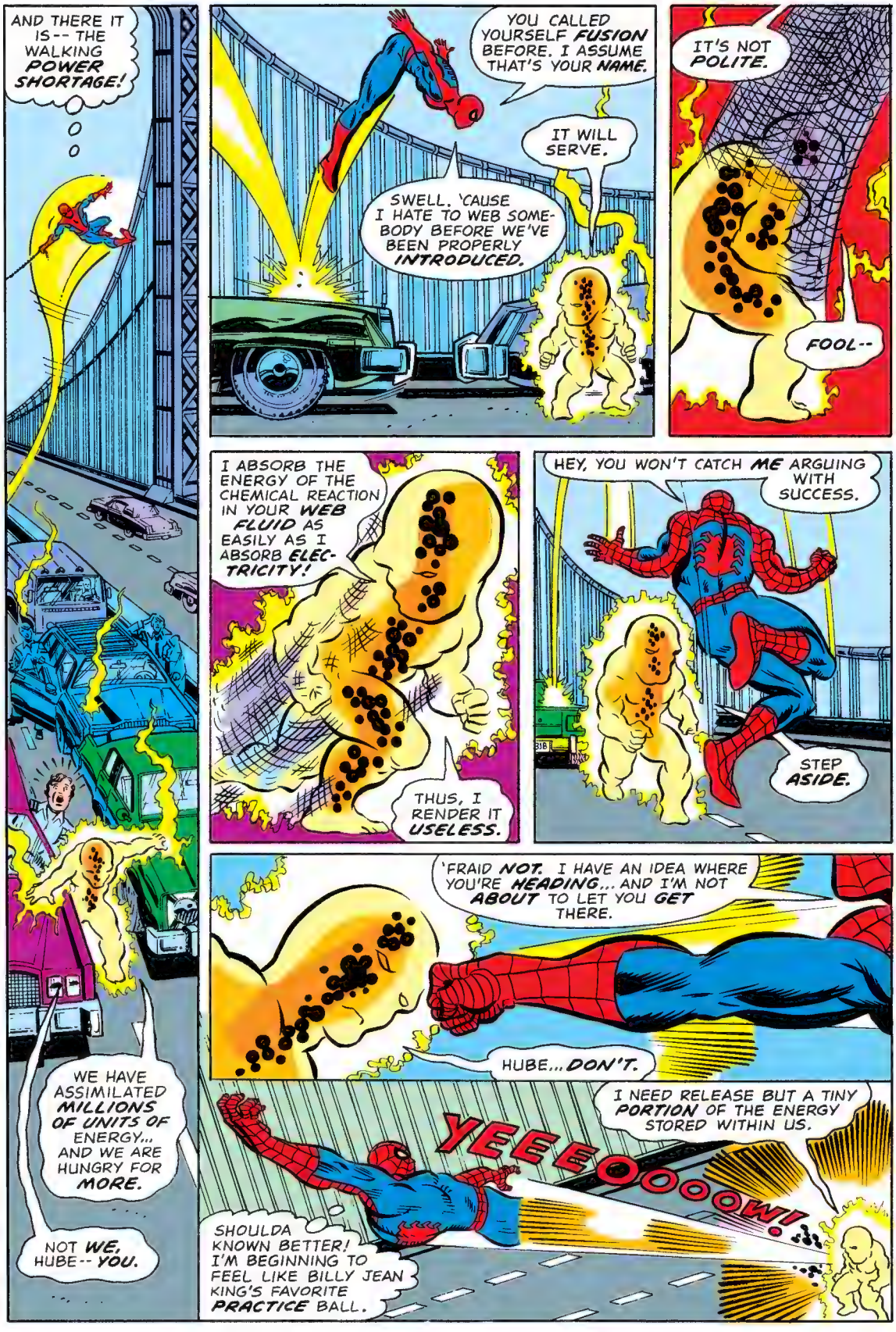

PARDON ME, FELLAS...YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE AFTER A GLOWING GOB OF NASTINESS, WOULD YOU?
YOU!
TAP TAP
I'M NOT GOING TO LOOK.

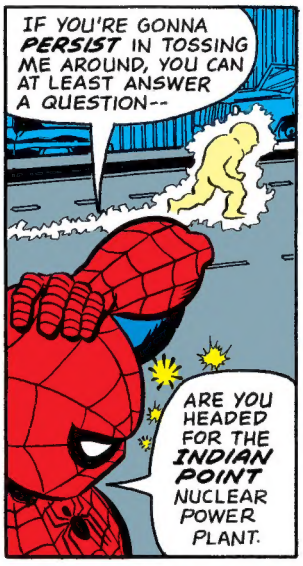

WE'RE HEADING FOR THE UPPER WEST SIDE. THE ENTIRE AREA'S BLACKED OUT.
THANKS.
I'M JUST GOING TO DRIVE.


BLACKOUT, HUH? IT COULD BE COINCIDENCE -- AND PIGS COULD DO ALGEBRA, TOO.
NEXT STOP, THE UPPER WEST SIDE.

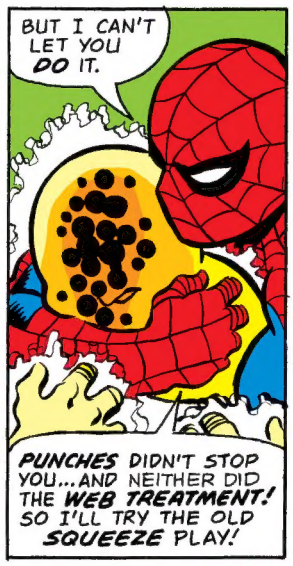

BUT, AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE...
SHEESH! THIS TRAFFIC JAM MAKES THE ONE I SAW THIS MORNING LOOK LIKE THE INDIANAPOLIS 500!
NOT ONLY ARE THE CARS NOT MOVING--

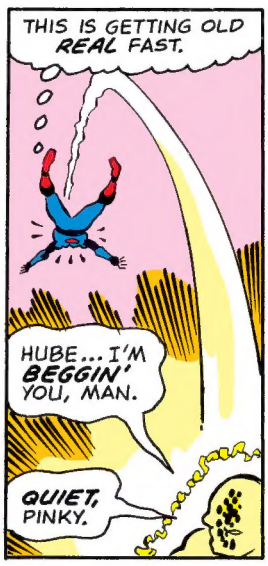
--THEIR ENGINES AREN'T EVEN RUNNING... AND THEIR LIGHTS ARE OUT!
IT'S LIKE IN THE HOSPITAL... I'M FOLLOWING A TRAIL BACKWARD...WITH A PRETTY GOOD IDEA OF WHAT IT'S LEADING TO!


AND THERE IT IS-- THE WALKING POWER SHORTAGE!
YOU CALLED YOURSELF FUSION BEFORE. I ASSUME THAT'S YOUR NAME.
IT WILL SERVE.
SWELL. 'CAUSE I HATE TO WEB SOMEBODY BEFORE WE'VE BEEN PROPERLY INTRODUCED.
IT'S NOT POLITE.
FOOL--
I ABSORB THE ENERGY OF THE CHEMICAL REACTION IN YOUR WEB FLUID AS EASILY AS I ABSORB ELECTRICITY!
THUS, I RENDER IT USELESS.
HEY, YOU WON'T CATCH ME ARGUING WITH SUCCESS.
STEP ASIDE.
'FRAID NOT. I HAVE AN IDEA WHERE YOU'RE HEADING... AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET YOU GET THERE.
HUBE... DON'T.
WE HAVE ASSIMILATED MILLIONS OF UNITS OF ENERGY... AND WE ARE HUNGRY FOR MORE.
NOT WE, HUBE-- YOU.
I NEED RELEASE BUT A TINY PORTION OF THE ENERGY STORED WITHIN US.
YEEEOOOOW!
SHOULDA KNOWN BETTER! I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE BILLY JEAN KING'S FAVORITE PRACTICE BALL.


IF YOU'RE GONNA PERSIST IN TOSSING ME AROUND, YOU CAN AT LEAST ANSWER A QUESTION--
ARE YOU HEADED FOR THE INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT.

YES. ONCE WE HAVE ABSORBED THE ENTIRE OUTPUT OF THE REACTOR--
--YOU'LL BE BE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS TREE.

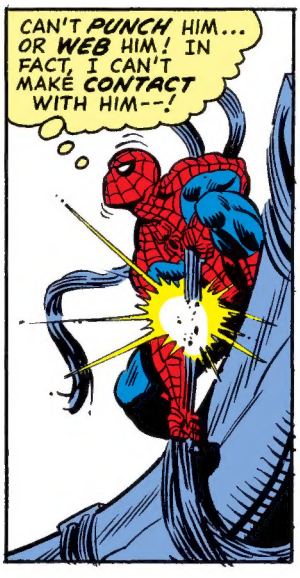

BUT I CAN'T LET YOU DO IT.
PUNCHES DIDN'T STOP YOU... AND NEITHER DID THE WEB TREATMENT! SO I'LL TRY THE OLD SQUEEZE PLAY!


THIS IS GETTING OLD REAL FAST.
HUBE... I'M BEGGIN' YOU, MAN.
QUIET, PINKY.

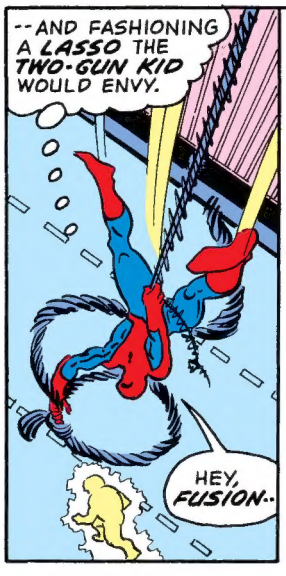
GO AHEAD LAUGH! BUT I'M WARNING YOU-- I MAY DO GRAVE BODILY HARM TO THE FIRST YO-YO WHO SAYS ANYTHING!

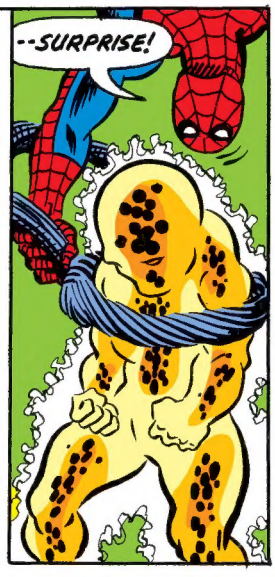
FUSION IS ALMOST TO THE FAR END OF THE BRIDGE. I GOTTA NAIL HIM NOW!
IF HE GETS TO THAT REACTOR... ABSORBS ITS POWER... NO TELLING WHAT HE'LL BE CAPABLE OF!

HE'S STILL MUTTERING TO HIMSELF.
IF WE DIE, PINKY, WE DIE SPLENDIDLY-- FOR THE CAUSE OF SCIENCE.
YOU AIN'T INTERESTED IN SCIENCE. YOU'RE INTERESTED IN YOU.

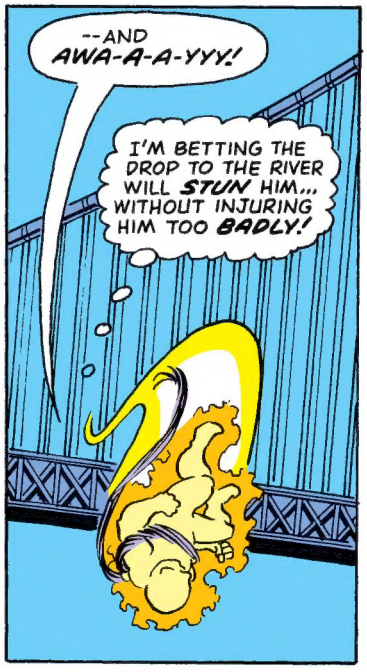

CAN'T PUNCH HIM... OR WEB HIM! IN FACT, I CAN'T MAKE CONTACT WITH HIM--!

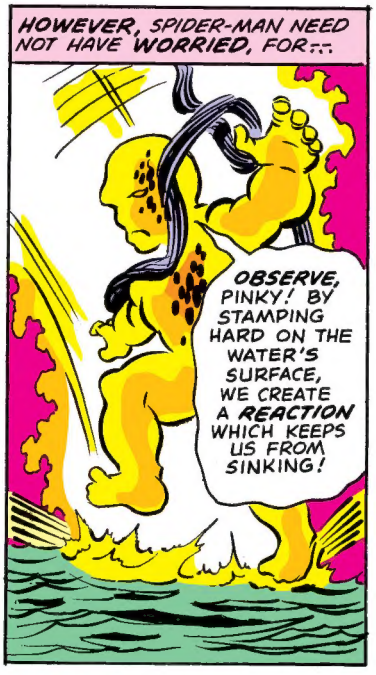
THIS CABLE MIGHT BE A SOLUTION! MY OLD SCOUTMASTER WOULD BE PROUD OF ME--TYING A SLIP KNOT IN AN INCH OF STEEL--

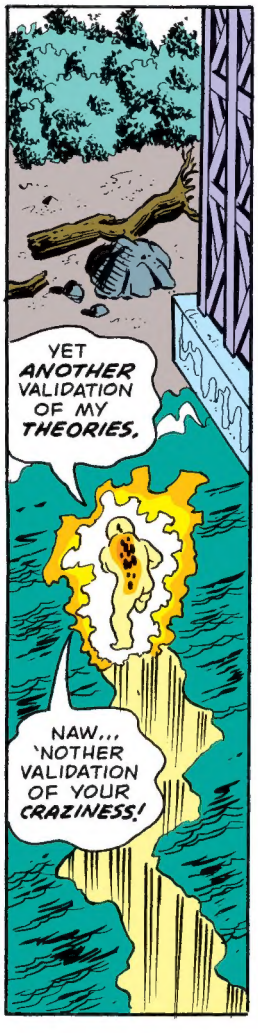

--AND FASHIONING A LASSO THE TWO-GUN KID WOULD ENVY.
HEY, FUSION--

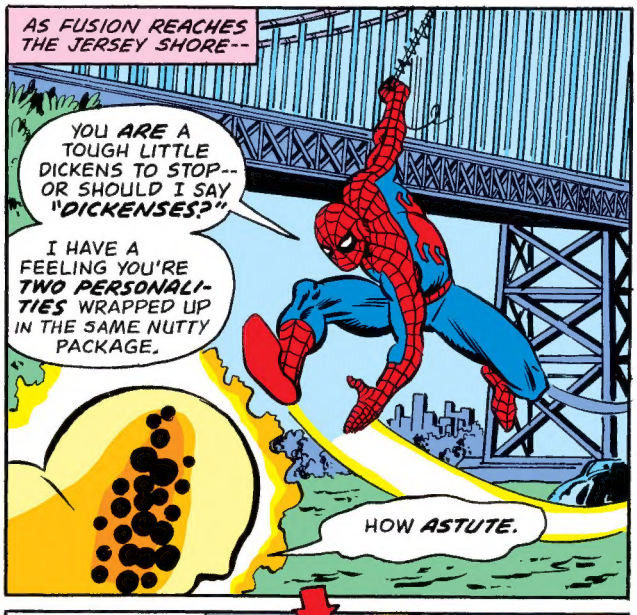

--SURPRISE!

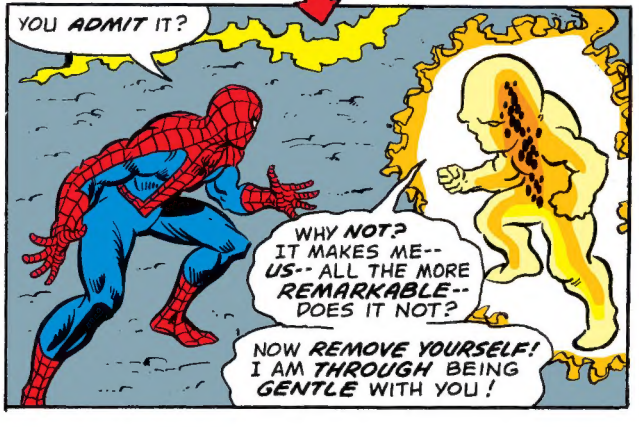
YOU CAN'T SHOCK YOURSELF LOOSE! I'M NOT GROUNDED AND THE ELECTRICAL CHARGE WON'T--
I REQUIRE NO INSTRUCTION IN BASIC PHYSICS FROM YOU!
IN THAT CASE... UP, UP--

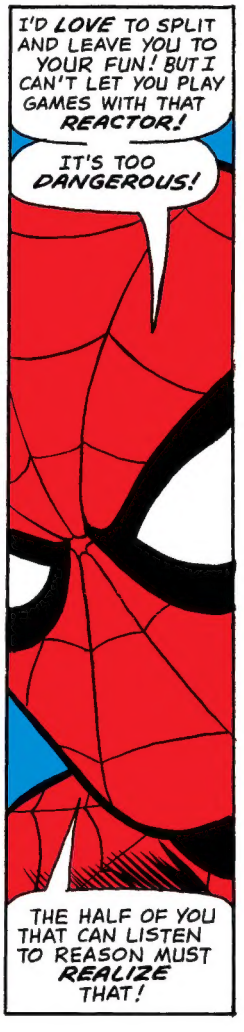

--AND AWA-A-A-YYY!
I'M BETTING THE DROP TO THE RIVER WILL STUN HIM... WITHOUT INJURING HIM TOO BADLY!

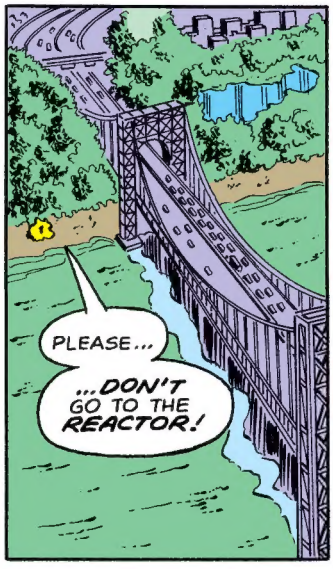

HOWEVER, SPIDER-MAN NEED NOT HAVE WORRIED, FOR...
OBSERVE, PINKY! BY STAMPING HARD ON THE WATER'S SURFACE, WE CREATE A REACTION WHICH KEEPS US FROM SINKING!

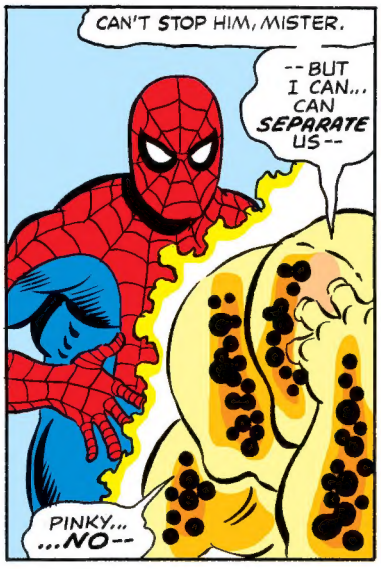

YET ANOTHER VALIDATION OF MY THEORIES.
NAW... 'NOTHER VALIDATION OF YOUR CRAZINESS!

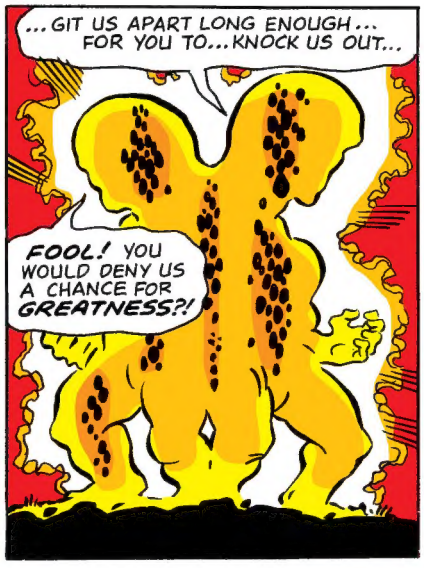

AS FUSION REACHES THE JERSEY SHORE--
YOU ARE A TOUGH LITTLE DICKENS TO STOP-- OR SHOULD I SAY "DICKENSES?"
I HAVE A FEELING YOU'RE TWO PERSONALITIES WRAPPED UP IN THE SAME NUTTY PACKAGE.
HOW ASTUTE.

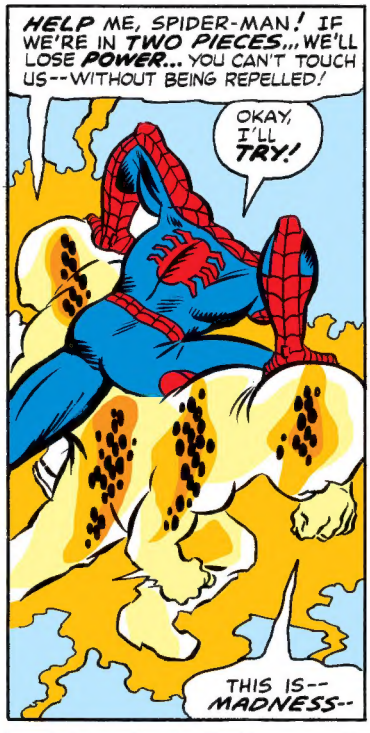

YOU ADMIT IT?
WHY NOT? IT MAKES ME-- US-- ALL THE MORE REMARKABLE-- DOES IT NOT?
NOW REMOVE YOURSELF! I AM THROUGH BEING GENTLE WITH YOU!


I'D LOVE TO SPLIT AND LEAVE YOU TO YOUR FUN! BUT I CAN'T LET YOU PLAY GAMES WITH THAT REACTOR!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
THE HALF OF YOU THAT CAN LISTEN TO REASON MUST REALIZE THAT!


PLEASE...
...DON'T GO TO THE REACTOR!

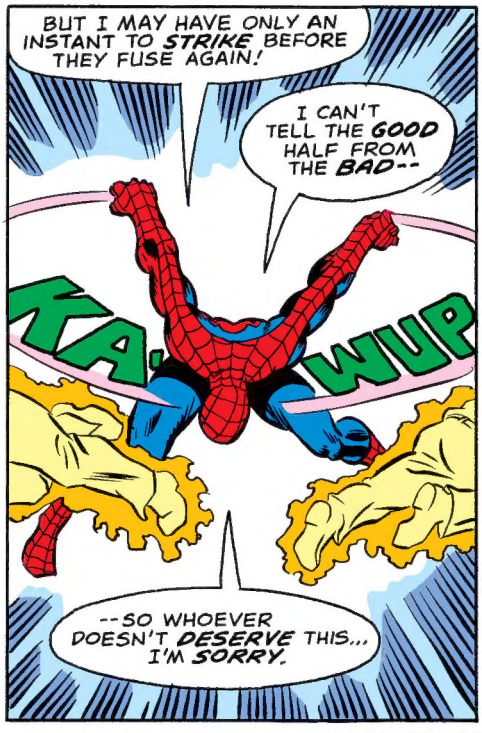

CAN'T STOP HIM, MISTER.
--BUT I CAN... CAN SEPARATE US--
PINKY... ...NO--

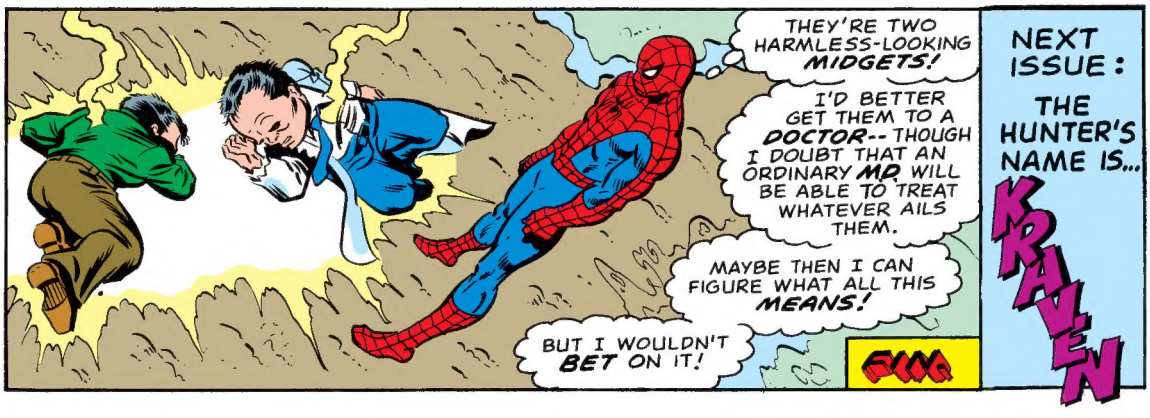

...GIT US APART LONG ENOUGH... FOR YOU TO...KNOCK US OUT...
FOOL! YOU WOULD DENY US A CHANCE FOR GREATNESS?!


HELP ME, SPIDER-MAN! IF WE'RE IN TWO PIECES... WE'LL LOSE POWER... YOU CAN'T TOUCH US--WITHOUT BEING REPELLED!
OKAY, I'LL TRY!
THIS IS-- MADNESS--

YEAH... SURE IS!
THE NIGHT-MARE KIND OF MADNESS!
CAN'T THINK ABOUT WHAT I'M DOING--

-- JUST GOTTA DO IT!
THE SEPARA-TION IS NEARLY COM-PLETE!


BUT I MAY HAVE ONLY AN INSTANT TO STRIKE BEFORE THEY FUSE AGAIN!
I CAN'T TELL THE GOOD HALF FROM THE BAD--
KA-WUP
--SO WHOEVER DOESN'T DESERVE THIS... I'M SORRY.


THEY'RE TWO HARMLESS-LOOKING MIDGETS!
I'D BETTER GET THEM TO A DOCTOR-- THOUGH I DOUBT THAT AN ORDINARY MD WILL BE ABLE TO TREAT WHATEVER AILS THEM.
MAYBE THEN I CAN FIGURE WHAT ALL THIS MEANS!
BUT I WOULDN'T BET ON IT!
NEXT ISSUE: THE HUNTER'S NAME IS... KRAVEN

Shadowcat